

Name of Practice:
NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (NMP) WRITING and REVISIONS (Annual)
DCR Specification for No. NM-1A

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's nutrient management plan writing and revision best management practice, that are applicable to all contracts, entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

The development and revision of nutrient management plans is needed to assure that implemented plans are accurate and up to date to minimize the impact of nutrients used in crop, pasture, and hay production to the environment.

The purpose of this practice is to offer financial assistance to farmers and private certified nutrient management planners for the development, revision of nutrient management plans. Participants are provided an incentive to annually revise plans to accurately reflect in field conditions so that farmers can maintain eligibility for other cost-share practices.

B. Policies and Specifications

Plans receiving cost share funding for writing and revision under this practice must be implemented at not to exceed recommended nutrient application rates on all agricultural production acres in the FSA Tract to be in compliance with this specification.

1. Definitions

- i. An **amended** Nutrient Management Plan is a current NMP that has been updated to accurately match current field crops and/or pasture management practices.
- ii. A verified nutrient management plan does not need modification as the planner and farmer have discussed the plan and verify that the plan accurately matches current field crops or pasture management practices. NMPs do not have to be changed in the second and third years so long as the planner verifies that he has met with the farmer and that the plan accurately matches current field crops and/or pasture management practices.
- iii. A **revised** Nutrient Management Plan is an expired NMP that has been rewritten to accurately match actual field crops and management practices.
- iv. **Cropland** is defined in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations as land used for the production of grain, oilseeds, silage, or industrial crops.
- v. **Hay** is defined as a grass, legume, or other plants, such as clover or alfalfa, which is cut and dried for feed, bedding, or mulch.
- vi. **Pasture** is defined as land that supports the grazing of animals for forages.

2. Eligibility

- i. This practice applies to crop, hay and pasture lands. Permanent pasture acres are eligible for cost-share under this practice.
- ii. The plan must cover at least twelve months of crop and management practices after the Board of Directors approval date.
- iii. Nutrient management plans developed for farms having or requiring VPA or VPDES animal waste permits qualify for cost-share at the rates listed. These plans must include special instructions required to meet VPA or VPDES permit requirements and must be approved by DCR as required by the VPA or VPDES permit. Cost-share payment cannot be made until the plan is approved by DCR. Nutrient Management Plans written as part of a VPA or VPDES permit must address requirements of applicable regulations to the operation in addition to meeting requirements stated in this section.
- iv. For this practice, the nutrient management plan must include all agricultural production acres within the FSA Tract for which the plan is being written. Cost-Share payment will be made after a copy of the new, amended, verified or revised plan is delivered to the appropriate Soil and Water Conservation District.
- v. To be eligible for cost-share funding, nutrient management plans must contain an aerial photograph, and scaled map. Such map shall include FSA Tract and Field numbers, and field acreages as outlined in (4 VAC 50-85-140 D. 2 & 3).
- vi. Cropland, which may receive applications of pelletized Class I biosolids that do not require a permit, is eligible as these products are considered commercial fertilizer.
- vii. New plans shall be written for a period of one to three years. Plans shall be amended or verified at one-year intervals for the life of the plan as needed to assure an accurate and up to date match of actual field crops or pasture management practices. Before cost-share payment can be made the following items must be submitted:
 - a. A complete copy of the nutrient management plan, containing the planner's Virginia Nutrient Management Certificate number
 - b. An invoice for planning services of the private certified planner
 - c. A completed Imported Manure Supplier Verification form (if applicable)
 - d. The acreage receiving mechanically applied on-farm generated animal manure or a combination of mechanically applied on-farm generated animal manure and commercial fertilizer and the acreage receiving only commercial fertilizer and/or imported animal manure , must be submitted to the SWCD before cost share reimbursement for writing the plan can be disbursed.
- viii. Plans must be developed based on soil analyses taken within a three year period prior to plan development and must be performed by Virginia Tech, A&L Eastern Laboratories-Richmond, Brookside Laboratories, Spectrum Analytical, Inc., Waters Agricultural Laboratories or other soil testing laboratories approved by DCR.
- ix. Participants may redirect their cost-share payment to their private certified nutrient management planner by signing a written statement to that effect. A sample statement is attached to this specification.

- x. In order to be eligible for cost-share, nutrient management plans must be prepared by a private planner who holds a current Nutrient Management Planner Certificate issued by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Nutrient Management Plans must be written to comply with all requirements set forth in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations, (4 VAC 50-85-10 et seq.) and the criteria set forth in the Virginia Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria, revised July 2014.

3. Ineligible

- i. The preparation of nutrient management plans as a component of biosolids (sewage sludge) application permitting is **NOT ELIGIBLE** for cost-share. Land that is permitted for biosolids applications is eligible for payment except for the year that the biosolids application occurs.
- ii. Planners will not be paid for plans that are developed without the collaboration and support of the operator. The plan must be reviewed and signed by the certified planner when amended or revised as needed to match planned crop rotations and management practices of the operator.
- ii. Any amended or revised NMP that is included as part of a Resource Management Plan that receives cost-share funds from the RMP-1 BMP may not also receive cost-share funds under the NM-1A.

This is an annual practice .The Cost-share payment will be issued annually. Applicants may reapply for NM-1A cost-share funding each year. There is no guarantee that cost-share funds will be approved by the local SWCD.

C. Rate(s)

- 1. The cost share rate is **\$2.00 per acre** for all eligible acres on a Tract that receive only commercial fertilizer, or a combination of **imported** animal manure and commercial fertilizer. Any manure applied must be from a farm within Virginia to receive cost share payment. Any Tract that receives only commercial fertilizer or a combination of imported animal manure and commercial fertilizer during the planning period should be paid **\$2.00/acre** for those acres that are newly planned, modified or revised.
- 2. The cost share rate is **\$4.00 per acre** for all acres on a Tract. Eligible acres include crop, hay, or pasture fields that receive the participant's mechanically applied **on-farm generated** animal manure, or a combination of the participant's mechanically applied on-farm generated manure and commercial fertilizer. Any Tract that receives mechanically applied on-farm generated animal manure or a combination of mechanically applied on farm generated animal manure and commercial fertilizer during the planning period should be paid **\$4.00/acre** for those acres that are newly planned, modified or revised.
- 3. Participants must provide the SWCD a copy of the current plan, which includes amendments or revisions that match all management practices to be implemented in the cropping year to the SWCD to receive the annual payment.

4. If the participant redirects the cost-share payment to their private certified nutrient management planner, the SWCD must send the appropriate IRS 1099 Tax form to the designated entity that received the cost share funds. Any entity that will receive a 1099 form must submit a completed W-9 for to the Soil and Water Conservation District that issues the cost-share payment.

D. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and SWCD staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE . Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above, and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA), for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

Revised March, 2016

Imported Manure Supplier Verification
(Required for NM-1A)*

_____, located at _____ is the
(Name of supplier) (Address of manure location)

source of _____ and can supply
(List type of manure as used in the nutrient management plan)

_____ for plan years beginning
(List the total amount of manure for all plan years)

_____ through _____. I understand it is my responsibility
(List season/year) (List season/year)

to apply this manure in the designated fields at the rates and times of year as stated in my
Nutrient Management Plan.

_____ (Name of Contact Person for Manure Supply)

_____ (Phone Number of Contact Person for Manure Supply)

(Receiving farmer/participant's signature)

(Date)

* (Complete this form for NM-1A, ONLY when imported manure is part of the plan recommendations.)

**ASSIGNMENT OF NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN WRITING AND REVISIONS (NM-1A)
COST-SHARE PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION**

I _____, do hereby direct
Name

the _____ Soil and Water

Conservation District (SWCD) to pay any and all cost-share funds disbursed under the

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN WRITING and REVISIONS (NM-1A) to

_____, of
Name

_____ for
Business

services provided during development of my Nutrient Management Plan. It is further acknowledged that an
IRS form 1099 in the amount of the payment will be sent directly to the above identified contractor.

Signature

Date

Neither the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) nor the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is providing tax advice; the program participant may wish to consult with an independent tax advisor regarding potential tax consequences.